

DOCKET: CU-4085

10/524695  
DT01 Rec'd PCT/PT 15 FEB 2005**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Stephen W. Vorley et al

TITLE: MEANS FOR CONNECTING PIPES COMPRISING AN AXIAL PRESS  
SURFACE TO TAKE AXIAL PRESSURE FROM A PRELOADING  
TOOLTHE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This is a preliminary amendment accompanying a new patent application being filed simultaneously herewith.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace the claims with the attached amended claims.

**REMARKS**

The claims have been amended to remove the characterizing language and reference numerals, and to correct minor grammatical informalities. No new matter has been added.

February 15, 2005

Date

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicant  
Brian W. Hameder  
c/o Ladas & Parry LLP  
224 South Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
(312) 427-1300  
Reg. No. 45613